



Dear Friends,

Psalm 18:27-29 27 You rescue the humble, but you humiliate the proud. You light a lamp for me. The Lord, my God, lights up my darkness. In your strength I can crush an army; with my God I can scale any wall.

It's Fall and if you drive in the early mornings like I do, you would have experienced that visibility-reducing cloudlike mass we call "FOG". Our eyes naturally open wide, our shoulders tense, and all our senses go on alert. Relief can come in two ways. Either the fog lifts and visibility is restored, or the taillights of the car ahead of us, gives us a guide to focus on and follow.

We live life in one of two states. Either things are clear and we merrily move onward, or things are foggy and we become incapacitated by our blindness. You might be in a situation right now in which you have no idea what to do next or even what to think next.

Could it be true (and I believe it is) that just as we find relief in following the taillights of the car ahead of us in a physical fog, we can find direction for our lives by following Jesus? Here is my reasoning.

If God knows all, he knows us completely. He knows our past, he knows our present, and he knows our future.

If God doesn't just know all but has the power to and is in control of all, he controls what has happened in our past, what is happening to us, and what will happen to us in the future.

If God doesn't just know all, doesn't just have the power to and is in control of all, but also loves us perfectly, we can trust him and entrust to him our past, present, and future.

What this means to us during those foggy times is that Jesus has already been in the future. He knows what is ahead. He has already prepared the future for us. And he is willing to show us, to steer us, in the best direction for us. Our job (for which we need his power) is to choose to follow him, to let his "taillights" be our guide.

For example, you are sensing that God is asking you to set up a time to meet with an estranged family member. Everything in you says “No, it’s their fault. They should be apologizing to me. I’m going to get ripped to shreds again.” Yet you keep hearing God say, “Call and get together with them. Trust me.” So mustering all your courage (which God is giving you, by the way) you follow through, not because everything is clear but just because God is asking you to follow him. The outcome really doesn’t matter because that is not your main goal. Obeying God is, and then trusting God to work in the outcome.

King David must have felt like he was living in a fog during those many years his life was in danger because of Saul.

Ruth and Naomi must have felt like they were living in a fog when provisions were scarce and their future unknown.

All the followers of Jesus must have felt like they were living in a fog when he was condemned and crucified.

Elizabeth Elliot and her family must have felt like they were living in a fog when their husband / father was killed by the very people they were trying to love for God.

You must feel like you are living in a fog when

It isn’t even possible to be alive and not experience foggy times. Could it be that God allows these times because he wants us to acknowledge our need for him and he wants us to trust him fully?

What is God asking you to trust him in? Is it a up-coming difficult conversation or a job interview? Is it for the next mortgage payment or a doctor’s appointment? Is it your child’s future or challenge of caring for elderly parents? Can you see God’s taillights? Are you willing to follow him? GOD HELP US!!!

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Blessings from Bev

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